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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/785,249	02/20/2001	Akira Suga	35.C10252 DII	6806

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EXAMINER
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HO, TUAN V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/785,249	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SUGA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Tuan V. Ho	<b>Art Unit</b> 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 70-83 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 70-74 and 77-81 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 75-76 and 82-83 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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1. The Double patenting rejection has been withdrawn due to The Terminal Disclaimer filed on 6/2/06.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 70-83 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 70-74 and 77-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Conway (US 5,444,476).

With regard to claim 70, Conway discloses in Fig. 6, a video teleconferencing system that comprises the apparatus for communicating with a camera (teleconferencing system shown in Fig. 6 includes video cameras 14d and 14d', col. 9, lines 19-40), the camera being controllable from each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system (PTR control

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22d and 22d', col. 9, line 21), said apparatus comprising a connecting device (communication interfaces 28 and 30) adapted to connect to the camera and a control device adapted to inhibit others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera in the case that one of the plurality of control apparatuses controls the camera through the communication system (PTR control 22 or 22' is inhibited to control the other camera in case more than one pointer appears in the display 26, 32 or 26', 32', col. 10, lines 1-17).

With regard to claim 71, Conway discloses in Fig. 6, a video teleconferencing system that comprises the control apparatus controls each of a plurality of cameras (PTR controls 22 and 22' controls cameras 14d or 14d').

With regard to claim 72, Conway discloses in Fig. 6, a video teleconferencing system that comprises the control apparatus comprises a designation device adapted to designate a desired image on a screen of a display device (PTR control 22 or 22' generates pointers used to designate an image on display 26d or 32d).

With regard to claim 73, Conway discloses in Fig. 6, a video teleconferencing system that comprises the control device inhibits another control apparatus from controlling the camera for a predetermined period of time (PTR control 22d or 22d' is

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inhibited in the period in which both of pointers appear on the displays, col. 10, lines 1-17).

With regard to claim 74, Conway discloses in Fig. 6, a video teleconferencing system that comprises the control device releases the other control apparatus from being inhibited from controlling the camera after the predetermined period of time has lapsed (PTR control 22d or 22d' is inhibited in the lapsed time period in which both of pointers appear on the displays, col. 10, lines 1-17).

Method claims 77-81 correspond to apparatus claims 70-74 and are analyzed the same as previously discussed with respect to apparatus claims 70-74.

3. Claims 75-76 and 82-83 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. This Office action is not made final due to new grounds of rejection.


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TUAN HO

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whose telephone number is (571) 272-7365. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7AM to 4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (572) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Customer Service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.



TUAN HO

Primary Examiner

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